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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES,  
Presiding Officer

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ROSE MARIE WALKER,  
Chairwoman

1550 Franklin Avenue  
Mineola, New York

Monday, January 12, 2015  
2:35 P.M.

1

2     A P P E A R A N C E S:3     ROSE MARIE WALKER,  
4         Chairwoman5     FRANCIS BECKER,  
6         Vice Chairman

7     LAURA SCHAEFER

8     VINCENT MUSCARELLA

9     DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON,  
10         Ranking

11     JUDITH JACOBS

12     KEVAN ABRAHAMS (Substituted by  
13         Siela Bynoe)14     WILLIAM J. MULLER, III  
15         Clerk of the Legislature

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LIST OF SPEAKERS

BRIAN HALL, Nassau County Department of Human Services.....	5
PAUL BRODERICK, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Social Services.....	7
GREGORY MAY, Director County Executive's Office.....	16

## Health/Social Services 1-12-15

2 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: At this time  
3 I'll call the Health and Social Services  
4 Committee to order and I would ask the clerk  
5 to please take the roll.

6 CLERK MULLER: Minority Leader  
7 Abrahams?

8 (No verbal response.)

9 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Jacobs?

10 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Here.

11 CLERK MULLER: Ranking Member  
12 DeRiggi Whitton?

13 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI WHITTON:  
14 Here.

15 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
16 Muscarella?

17 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.

18 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
19 Schaefer?

20 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Here.

21 CLERK MULLER: Vice Chairman  
22 Becker?

23 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Present.

24 CLERK MULLER: Chairwoman Walker?

25 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Here.

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2 CLERK MULLER: We have a quorum.

3 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you,  
4 Mr. Muller. There are four items on the  
5 agenda today. The first is Clerk Item 10-15  
6 which is an ordinance supplemental to the  
7 annual appropriation ordinance in connection  
8 with the Department of Human Services,  
9 Office of the Aging.

10 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Bynoe  
11 is substituting for Minority Leader  
12 Abrahams. I'll correct that, I apologize.  
13 Legislator Bynoe is here.

14 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Motion,  
15 please.

16 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: So moved.

17 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Second.

18 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by  
19 Legislator Schaefer, seconded by Legislator  
20 Becker. We have?

21 MR. HALL: Brian Hall from Human  
22 Services. This is a COLA funding we get  
23 every year from the Office of the Aging to  
24 maintain and recruit staff for our  
25 subcontractors.

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2                   We already have expenses that  
3   cover the revenue so, in essence, it's 100  
4   percent revenue coming in. We give it to  
5   the different subcontractors for them to be  
6   able to, like we said, recruit, and  
7   increases for their own people to keep them  
8   on staff.

9                   CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Okay. Any  
10   questions from the legislators?

11                   LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Just  
12   probably more of a clarification. There  
13   were two different numbers; one is the  
14   appropriation of \$438,928 and then there was  
15   also the number of 428.

16                   MR. HALL: Actually, it's  
17   supposed to be the \$438,000. And 928, it's  
18   three separate funding sources where we get  
19   the COLA increase.

20                   LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: So,  
21   just for the record, the correct funding is  
22   438?

23                   MR. HALL: That's right.

24                   LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:  
25   Thank you.

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2 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any other  
3 questions or comments from the legislators?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 Any public comment?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 All those in favor of Clerk Item  
8 10-15 signify by saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 Any opposed?

11 (No verbal response.)

12 The motion moves forward to  
13 Finance. Clerk item 15-15 is an ordinance  
14 supplemental to the annual appropriation  
15 ordinance in connection with the Department  
16 of Social Services.

17 May I have a motion, please?

18 LEGISLATOR BECKER: So moved.

19 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

20 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Motion by  
21 Legislator Becker, seconded by Legislator  
22 Muscarella. We have Mr. Paul Broderick  
23 here. Happy New Year.

24 MR. BRODERICK: Legislators, good  
25 afternoon, and Happy New Year to one and

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2 all, healthy new year.

3 Paul Broderick, Deputy  
4 Commissioner, Department of Social Services.  
5 The item before you is a supplemental  
6 appropriation for \$50,000. The item  
7 appropriates \$50,000 in funds from the New  
8 York State Division of Criminal Justice  
9 Services to address domestic violence within  
10 the county. Do you have any questions?

11 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions  
12 from the legislators or comments?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 Any public comment?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 All those in favor signify by  
17 saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 Any opposed?

20 (No verbal response.)

21 It will go on to Finance. Thank  
22 you.

23 Clerk item 22-15 is an ordinance  
24 supplemental to the annual appropriation  
25 ordinance in connection with the Department



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2 of Mental Health, Chemical Dependency and  
3 Developmental Disability Services.

4 Motion, please.

5 LEGISLATOR BECKER: So moved.

6 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Second.

7 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by  
8 Legislator Becker, seconded by Legislator  
9 Schaefer.

10 MR. HALL: Hi. Brian Hall again.  
11 This is a grant we received from the New  
12 York State Office of Mental Health. It's a  
13 mobility assistance grant. It's two pieces.  
14 The first piece is, we have a manager who is  
15 mapping out and setting up a plan for extra  
16 bus service for people who have  
17 developmental disability adults who are not  
18 within range of NICE and the Able-Ride.  
19 Once this plan is put in place, Rides  
20 Unlimited in Suffolk County is going to  
21 supply the buses and the services to get  
22 these people who are in hard to reach areas.  
23 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Excellent.  
24 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton.  
25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:

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2 Legislator Judy Jacobs and myself really do  
3 not have much access to Able-Ride in our  
4 districts. So, how much of a service do you  
5 provide for that?

6 MR. HALL: At this point now they  
7 are studying to see where it's needed most.  
8 It just happens that the north shore is one  
9 of the areas where they are planning on  
10 using it.

11 Again, the first year from now  
12 until next September, they are working up a  
13 study to see where it's most needed. They  
14 are obviously going to concentrate on areas  
15 that don't have Able-Ride or NICE within the  
16 areas for these developmentally disabled  
17 adults.

18 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I  
19 know that Judy will also second this, but,  
20 as was said, the two of us would really be  
21 interested in this. Who, again, is doing  
22 the study?

23 MR. HALL: Well, it's a grant  
24 from the state Office of Mental Health. We  
25 have, on hand, we have hired a personal

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2 service contract for the person. We have  
3 her on board and she's working up the study  
4 to figure out where we need it. And next  
5 year, Rides Unlimited will be supplying the  
6 buses and we will be working with them.

7 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: This is a new  
8 program, correct?

9 MR. HALL: Right, this is  
10 something new. That's why the first year is  
11 just the study and the second year it's  
12 going to be implemented.

13 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:  
14 Could you give me the name of that woman?

15 MR. HALL: I have the name.

16 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I  
17 would like to -- would there be any input  
18 from the legislators or anything?

19 MR. HALL: I'm sure it would be  
20 welcomed.

21 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Well,  
22 speaking for Judy and I, we would really  
23 like to be kept in the loop for that as well  
24 as there is a very large senior center in  
25 Glen Cove that Carol Waldman, the director,

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2 it's been a major major problem for us since  
3 it's been stopped. So, Judy.

4 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: It's larger  
5 than you can believe. Picture the county  
6 just being split in four, and a whole  
7 quarter of the county doesn't have this  
8 service.

9 One thing bothered me a lot  
10 recently that I didn't even realize. I was  
11 always under the impression that within  
12 three quarters of a mile of an established  
13 bus route that they would be picked up. Not  
14 so right, because in Plainview there is an  
15 established bus route -- for example, on  
16 Woodbury Road, a person lives a certain  
17 distance off of Woodbury Road, which doesn't  
18 quite make them eligible and they should  
19 walk to Woodbury Road. They can't.

20 So, this program, as wonderful as  
21 it is, Oh, my God, but I know at the  
22 hearings that we all were at, at the  
23 beginning when these cuts were -- I just  
24 don't know what's happening. I mean, some  
25 of the young people where Delia and I live,

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2 college students and everything else, cut  
3 off.

4                   As Delia mentioned, the Glen Cove  
5 Senior Center, the Oyster Bay Senior Center,  
6 and it's interesting to know this, I  
7 believe, along with the rotary, I believe  
8 from Glen Cove, actually put money together  
9 and tried as hard as they could to have a  
10 van that could do the job. They couldn't do  
11 it for long because of the monetary impact  
12 on them but, truthfully, it's probably one  
13 of the most shameful things that is going on  
14 right now. People with dialysis cannot get  
15 there. People with hearing impairments or  
16 vision impairments, and I really agree with  
17 Delia, and not that everyone shouldn't be  
18 informed, but certain the two of us and also  
19 obviously Don MacKenzie from Oyster Bay,  
20 should be the three of us, are kept informed  
21 and our input should be part of it.

22                   MR. HALL: Yes. I can get you  
23 the information.

24                   LEGISLATOR JACOBS: It's going to  
25 take about a year?

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2 MR. HALL: Before it's  
3 implemented, the plan, and this is for the  
4 developmentally disabled. It's not for  
5 everybody, but it's a start of what we are  
6 looking to do.

7 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: But the  
8 developmentally disabled would incorporate,  
9 most likely, hearing, sight.

10 MR. HALL: Right.

11 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: So I really  
12 would love for the three of us to have a  
13 voice in this. And then I would like to  
14 know how they are going to inform the  
15 people. That's an important part.

16 MR. HALL: I can get back with a  
17 little more information and I can also have  
18 Lisa Murphy give you a call on this.

19 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: A lot of  
20 people within the system know that I have  
21 been bringing this up for so many years only  
22 because it's such a void and so sad.

23 I just wanted to tell you, the  
24 two of us, when Delia mentioned it, I said,  
25 this would be wonderful if this could

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2     happen.

3                   MR. HALL:    It's the beginning  
4     stages and hopefully the state will come  
5     through with more funds down the road.

6                   LEGISLATOR JACOBS:   Let me tell  
7     you, it's the beginning stages of something  
8     that's been dormant for too long.

9                   MR. HALL:    Right.

10                  LEGISLATOR JACOBS:   Thank you.

11                  CHAIRWOMAN WALKER:   Thank you,  
12     and I do appreciate that because it's a  
13     major portion of this county that's really  
14     been without the available rides to where  
15     they need to go.   And, please, if you could,  
16     certainly the legislators, Legislator Jacobs  
17     and DeRiggi-Whitton, and Legislator  
18     MacKenzie, but if you get the information  
19     too to the presiding officer and get it out  
20     to all of us and we'll make sure we stay on  
21     top of this with you.

22                  MR. HALL:    Okay.   Will do.

23                  CHAIRWOMAN WALKER:   Thank you.

24     Any other further comments?

25                               (No verbal response.)

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2 Any public comment?

3 (No verbal response.)

4 All those in favor of 22-15

5 signify by saying aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 Any opposed?

8 (No verbal response.)

9 It will move on to Finance.

10 Clerk item 38-15 is an ordinance  
11 supplemental to the annual appropriation  
12 ordinance in connection with the Department  
13 of Health. Motion, please.

14 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.

15 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Second.

16 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by

17 Legislator Muscarella, seconded by

18 Legislator Schaefer. Do we have someone

19 from the Health Department coming to speak?

20 Not today. Does anyone have any questions

21 in particular on this clerk item? We don't

22 have anyone here from the Health Department?

23 Usually we do have Ms. Lorraine here.

24 MR. MAY: I'm sorry, Chairwoman

25 Walker. We had Ms. Tony Mason here from the



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2 Health Department but she was called away to  
3 a meeting and our regular MaryEllen Lorraine  
4 was off today.

5 This is the COLA for the WIC  
6 Program. This is just a supplemental  
7 appropriation for, I forget the amount of  
8 funds, I don't have it in front of me, but  
9 an additional appropriation from the state  
10 for the WIC Program. It's the cost of  
11 living adjustment.

12 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: We didn't  
13 have any questions.

14 MR. MAY: I'm sorry. I was  
15 having a conversation in the back and I  
16 didn't want to leave you hanging. I  
17 apologize.

18 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: That's quite  
19 all right. Thank you very much. So there  
20 are no questions by the legislators. Any  
21 public comment?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 All those in favor signify by  
24 saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

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2 Any opposed?

3 (No verbal response.)

4 This will also move on to  
5 Finance. That is the end of our meeting  
6 today. Motion to adjourn.

7 LEGISLATOR BECKER: So moved.

8 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Second.

9 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by  
10 Legislator Becker, seconded by Legislator  
11 Schaefer. All in favor of adjourning?

12 (Aye.)

13 Next is the Finance Committee.

14 (Whereupon, the Health and Social  
15 Services Committee adjourned at 2:44 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, FRANK GRAY, a Shorthand Reporter and  
Notary Public in and for the State of New  
York, do hereby stated:

THAT I attended at the time and place  
above mentioned and took stenographic record  
of the proceedings in the above-entitled  
matter;

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true  
and accurate transcript of the same and the  
whole thereof, according to the best of my  
ability and belief.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set  
my hand this 26th day of January, 2015.

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FRANK GRAY